

*to file*  
SECRET

Urgo 62-5978

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ONI HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND  
RELEASE.

18 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the Director of Central  
Intelligence

SUBJECT: Vietnamese Communist Forces in Laos

25X1

STA

On 18 August, Souvanna stated in a press interview that there were no North Vietnamese troops in areas controlled by his forces although some North Vietnamese "military experts and instructors" were in the Plaine des Jarres. Such statements are contrary to the facts.

2. The five American prisoners released by the Pathet Lao on 17 August have reported the presence of North Vietnamese forces in Laos. Grant Wolfkill, NBC cameraman-correspondent, has described his own personal experiences with North Vietnamese troops and has estimated that 10,000 North Vietnamese were in Laos--a guess, incidentally, quite close to our own estimates of between 9,000 and 10,000.

25X1D

STATINTL

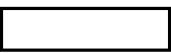
ONI review(s)  
completed.

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Declassify if not declassified  
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declassification

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Read Watch teams have also reported the movement of trucks containing North Vietnamese troops toward the DRV border. However, these sources of intelligence are not going to provide a final and definitive answer to the question of whether or not all North Vietnamese have left Laos and certainly will not support a legal case before the ICC. The attitude taken by Souvanna Phouma and Souphanouvong [redacted] might have been prompted by the reported "deal" in which Souvanna Phouma promised the Vietnamese and Chinese Communists that he would keep their presence a secret. In turn, they promised to withdraw from Laos. Therefore this suggests that it will be difficult to determine if the Vietnamese Communists withdraw and certainly difficult to "prove".

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 SECRET GROUP 1  
Downgrading and  
Declassification

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ER 62-5931

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDCI  
Exec. Dir. (Action)  
DD/I  
DD/P  
DD/P

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At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, there was a discussion of the interdepartmental survey teams required under NSAM 173. The Department has decided to survey Guatemala instead of the Dominican Republic in addition to Colombia. The reason is that State expects disorders in the Dominican Republic and felt it would be inadvisable to have a survey team there now. Mr. Byroade will be chairman of this group and Mr. Belcher the executive secretary.

The DCI reported that George Carey will be our representative.

Action: George Carey to be formally assigned.

25X1A

H. Knoche

*EA/DCI*

ER 62-5933

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P  
Director of Training  
DD/P   
DDCI  
Exec. Dir.

25)

1. At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, in dealing with the training committee's report on the country team seminar, it was agreed that the name "Problems of Development in Internal Defense" should be retained although there was some objection to this and it was agreed that the reference to "country team seminar" could be used as a short form reference. There was general satisfaction over improvements in the curriculum and quality of instructors. An appeal was made that faculty assignments be for a year.

Action: The DCI wants to know prior to next week's Special Group meeting how the Agency feels about the question of faculty assignments for a year's duration. Training should prepare a memo and forward it through the DD/P  by Wednesday, August 22.

6X1  
2. In further discussion of this subject, the DCI criticized security practices at the Foreign Service Institute and it was agreed that this matter would be reviewed and security should be tightened.

Action: The DCI wants to be informed periodically on the status of the Foreign Service Institute's security practices.

ER62-5930

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: **DCI**  
**Exec. Dir.**  
**DD/P**  
**DD/P**

25)

At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, there was a discussion of future lectures by Government officials at the Foreign Service Institute.

The DCI believes considerable care and thought should be given to any addresses by General Carter and Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Helms. Subjects of their talks should be related to other presentations to avoid duplication. Also, to avoid speeches which merely trace past history from some thought should be given to describing the case history of the past situation as it relates to lessons learned for future situations.

**H. Knoche**

ER 62-5929

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P  
C/CA (Action)  
DD/P [redacted]

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At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, the Attorney General brought up the question as to why Cord Meyer could not address a group at the Foreign Service Institute on [redacted]

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Action: The DCI would like to have C/CA report to him on this matter in order that the DCI may inform the Attorney General.

H. Knoche

ER 62-5928

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/R (Action)

DD/R [redacted]

DDCI

Exec. Dir.

STATINTL

STATINTL

At the Special Group meeting of 16 August, the various cover stories were reviewed. Questions were raised about [redacted] No one liked it but it was pointed out that alternatives which had been explored would raise serious questions.

STATINTL

Action: The DCI wants further thought to be given to [redacted] to see if it can in any way be improved.

H. Knoche

ER 62-5927

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P   
DDCI  
Exec. Dir.

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At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, General Taylor made reference to the DCI's letter of 13 August on intelligence required for Counter-Insurgency. The General accepted the letter as responsive to his request of 22 April and he asked that the letter and attachments be circulated to members of the CI group.

Action: The DCI wants immediate follow-up to General Taylor's request.

H. Knoche

ER 62-5926

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P

DD/P

C/FE

DDCI

Exec. Dir.

25)

At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August in a discussion of the establishment of additional training camps in South Vietnam, the DCI emphasized the importance of the early establishment of camps in the western part of the country.

The DCI also reviewed the procedure followed by CIA in maintaining a register and record of arms issued and he strongly urged that the DOD follow the same procedure in the future.

The DCI posed no objection to the transfer of responsibility for training from CIA to DOD.

H. Knoche

ER 62-5925

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P  
DD/P [redacted] (Action)  
DDCI  
Exec. Dir.

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At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, the  
DCI briefly reported on the status of [redacted]  
[redacted] It was generally agreed that [redacted]  
had gotten off to a good start.

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STATINTL

STATINTL

Action: A copy of the report used by the DCI on  
this subject [redacted] memo and the [redacted]  
cable) are to be submitted to General Taylor.

STATINTL

H. Knoche

STATINTL

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ER 62-5923

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/R  
DD/I  
DD/R [redacted] Action)  
DDCI  
Exec. Dir.

STATINTL

STATINTL

At the Special Group meeting of 16 August a question was raised as to whether operation [redacted] should not come before the Special Group. This apparently is a Naval operation well off shore conducted by the Navy for the purpose of determining Soviet defensive reaction time. Decision as to whether the matter should come before the Group was left unresolved.

Action: Please advise me so that I can inform the DCI the details as to what this operation is.

H. Knoche

ER 62-5922

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/S  
Director of Security (Action)  
DD/R  
DD/R [redacted]  
DCI  
Exec. Dir.

STATINTL

At the Special Group meeting of 16 August, [redacted] STA  
raised a question about centralizing records of KH clearances.  
He said that a record was kept of all domestic clearances but  
there was no record of foreigners who had been briefed on KH.

Action: DCI wants this matter reviewed immediately  
and a memo to the DCI should be prepared outlining what are  
the facts in this matter. Please submit the memo on Monday,  
20 August.

H. Kneche

*ER*

ER 62-5921  
17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/P  
DD/I  
DD/P  (Action)  
DDCI  
Exec. Dir.

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At the Special Group (CI) meeting of 16 August, the DOD paper concerning the status of the Cambodian Army's Civic Action Program was discussed. There was general agreement that the program seemed sound and encouraging. The DCI noted the reservations of this Agency on the subject, and these reservations were to be noted in the official minutes.

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Action: The DD/P  should make sure the minutes reflect the DCI's reservations and the DD/P  is asked to provide occasional status reports to the DCI, based on the coordinated views of DD/P and DD/I on the subject of the Cambodian program.

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H. Knoche

ER 62-5918

17 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI

Exec. Dir.

DD/R (Action)

DD/R ( [redacted]

DD/I

DD/P

STATINTL

At the Special Group meeting of 16 August, [redacted] explained a plan to brief NATO representatives and heads of NATO states on certain aspects of KH. The DCI urged that these briefings be kept to an absolute minimum pointing out security hazards involved. It was agreed that the briefings should be kept limited. The DCI plans to discuss this matter with Secretary Ruak and the President.

STA

Action: DD/R should prepare a position paper for the DCI to use when taking this subject up with higher authority, the paper to be submitted no later than Tuesday, 21 August.

H. Knoche